

11-10-03



Appl. No. 10/635,978

PATENT

Information Disclosure Statement

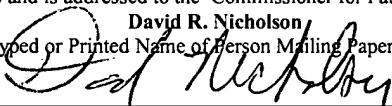
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Date of Deposit: November 7, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

David R. Nicholson

(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)


(Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

Appl. No.	:	10/635,978	Confirmation No. 1613
Applicant	:	Julie M. Tarara et al.	
Filed	:	August 7, 2003	
TC/A.U.	:	2855	
Examiner	:	Not Yet Assigned	
Docket No.	:	0191.02	
Customer No.	:	25278	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Information Disclosure Statement
(Submission Prior to Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office (except U.S. patent applications) are listed on PTO/SB/08, attached hereto.

II. COPIES (check at least one item)

OG Notice 05 August 2003: The office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003.

- a. Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each foreign patent document; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cited U.S. patent and pending U.S. application, a listing of that portion of the application which caused it to be listed and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- b. Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on PTO/SB/08 or on the copies of PTO 892 but which are not enclosed herewith were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one item)

- a. Except as may be indicated below in (b), all patent, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).
- b. A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:
- c. The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this (these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, applicant does not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 USC 122:

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Art Unit</u>
60/407,429	August 30, 2002	

FEES

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b): (check one item)

- a. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53 (d). [37 CFR 1.97(b)(1)].
No fee or statement is required.
- b. Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application [37 CFR 1.97(b)(2)].
No fee or statement is required.
- c. Before the mailing date of the first Action on the merits [37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)].
No fee or statement is required.
- d. Before the mailing of a first office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114 [37 CFR 1.97 (b)(4)].
No fee or statement is required

VI. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(c):

before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 CFR 1.113 [See 37 CFR 1.97(c)(1)] or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311 [See 37 CFR 1.97(c)(2)]. (check one item)

- a. No statement; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$ _____ is required by 37 CFR 1.17(p); or
- b. See the statement below. No fee is required.

VII. Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby certifies that: (check only one item)

- a. each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- b. no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

c. Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication for a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no items of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VIII. Payment of Fees (check one item)

a. NO FEE IS REQUIRED.

b. Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2135 in the amount of \$ _____ for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

This disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; or (iii) the cited information constitutes prior art in the subject application.

If this IDS is determined to not fully comply with the rules, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account 50-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

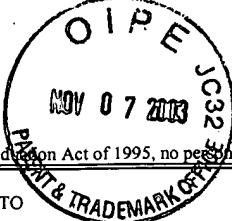
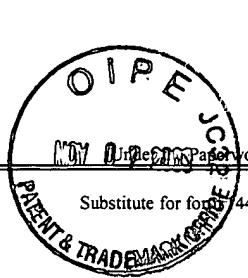


David R. Nicholson
Attorney of Record
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Telephone: (510) 559-5736
or 559-6067

Enclosures

- PTO/SB/08 (1 page)
- PTO-892
- References
- Foreign Search Report
- Fee
- Other:



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

David R. Nicholson

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/635,978
Filing Date	August 7, 2003
First Named Inventor	Julie M. Tarara et al.
Art Unit	2855
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	0191.02

Certificate of Mailing

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 Express Mail No. ER 316838665 US Date: November 7, 2003

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number – Kind Code ²	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
AA1	Re 31,023	09/07/1982	Hall III		Entire Reference
AB1	US-6,374,538 B1	04/23/2002	Morris et al.		Entire Reference
AC1	US-6,525,276 B1	02/25/2003	Vellidus et al.		Entire Reference
	US-				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.